

**FY 2006 RANKING CRITERIA WORKSHEET
NEW MEXICO FEDERAL LANDS COLLABORATIVE GRAZING**

Applicant: _____

Primarily F.S. _____

Primarily BLM _____

Rating: _____

Attach map showing operating unit covered by this application

SCREENING CRITERIA -- Circle HIGH, MEDIUM, or LOW	
APPLICATIONS WITH PREDOMINANTLY FOREST SERVICE FEDERAL LAND	
HIGH	Applicant has an active Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP) that includes land located on any of the five national forests, or Applicant has an approved Allotment Management Plan or decision on a completed NEPA analysis for the allotment that includes land located in the Gila, Lincoln or Santa Fe N.F. and is willing to complete development of a CRMP within 1 year.
MEDIUM	Applicant has an approved Allotment Management Plan or decision on a completed NEPA analysis for the allotment that includes land on the Carson or Cibola N.F., and is willing to complete development of a CRMP within 1 year.
LOW	All other Applications
APPLICATIONS WITH PREDOMINANTLY BLM FEDERAL LAND	
HIGH	Applicant has an active Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP), an approved Allotment Management Plan, or decision on a completed NEPA analysis for the allotment and is willing to complete development of a CRMP within 1 year, and is located in the Gila River Watershed or BLM lands adjacent to the Cibola N.F. in western Socorro County.
MEDIUM	Applicant has an active Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP), an approved Allotment Management Plan, or decision on a completed NEPA analysis for the allotment and is willing to complete development of a CRMP within 1 year, but is not located in the area of the Special Status Species Resource Management Plan Amendment for Las Cruces or Socorro BLM Field Offices.
LOW	All other Applications
All high priority applications will be ranked and funding selections made before any medium or low priority applications are ranked. If additional funds are available after all high priority applications are funded, medium priority applications will be ranked and funded. Low priority applications will only be ranked and funded after all high and medium priority applications are funded.	

1. Grazing System - Potential Points - 200 (25% of Total)						
* Maximum points that will be awarded is 200						
		% Area in Contract Before Treatment	% Area in Contract After Treatment.	Potential Points	Bench-mark Points	After Points
Grazing Plan	Intensive Grazing			100		
	Seasonal Grazing			50		
	Continuous Grazing			0		
Deferment Period	>90% of Growing Season			100		
	51-90% of Growing Season			40		
	26-50% of Growing Season			10		
	0-25% of Growing Season			0		
Stocking Rate	1 aum/>9 Acres			50		
	1 aum/5.5 - 9 Acres			25		
	1 aum/4 - 5.4 Acres			10		
	1 aum/<4 Acres			0		
1. Grazing System					Total:	
Difference (After Points - Benchmark Points)						

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2. Conservation Practice(s) Selection - 440 Potential Points (55% of Total)*

* Maximum points that will be awarded is 440, regardless of individual points available per practice

Any practice used in the ranking criteria and intended to be included in the EQIP contract must be a cost-shared practice or have an incentive payment. Practices that benefit multiple resource concerns have been listed under the resource concern that is benefited the most.	Percent of Need Planned	Potential Points	Points
Grazing Management: Increased flexibility or management intensity, or improved distribution			
Fence (382)		30	
Pipeline (516)/Pumping Plant (533)/Spring Development (574)/Watering Facility (614)/Water Well (642)		50	
Range Planting (550)		20	
Forage Production and Availability: Vegetation treatments and noxious weed management			
Brush Management (314)		60	
Forest Stand Improvement (666)		60	
Prescribed Burning (338)		40	
Critical Area Planting (342)		40	
Riparian Management: Improved watershed functioning			
Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)		80	
Streambank and Shoreline Protection (580)		80	
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)		80	
2. Conservation Practice Selection.		Total:	

3. F.S. Other Considerations - 160 Potential Points (20% of Total)**

Use Section 3 if the majority of the Federal Land is managed by the Forest Service.

Use Section 4 if the majority of the Federal Land is managed by the BLM.

** Maximum points that will be awarded is 160, regardless of individual points available per attribute.

	Potential Points	Points
A. Threatened or endangered species (or designated critical habitat) are in the area and the contract will enhance habitat for at least one of the following species: Mexican spotted owl, Southwestern willow flycatcher, Chiricahua leopard frog, Loach minnow, Spikedace, or Gila trout.	60	
B. Treatment of this land could have a beneficial impact on a 303d listed stream.	40	
C. Treatment of this land could enhance the benefits of an active/proposed 319 project.	20	
D. This land is in a NMED designated Category 1 watershed.	30	
E. The proposed contracted area will be treated to eradicate and/or prevent infestation of Class A and/or Class B noxious weeds as designated by NMDA.	20	
F. Structural improvements provided for in the contract involve the reconstruction of non-functional existing structures.	50	
G. Existing partnerships are in place to help facilitate the completion of practices provided for in the contract.	50	
3. F.S. Other Considerations.	Total:	

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4. BLM Other Considerations - 160 Potential Points (20% of Total)**

Use Section 3 if the majority of the Federal Land is managed by the Forest Service.

Use Section 4 if the majority of the Federal Land is managed by the BLM.

** Maximum points that will be awarded is 160, regardless of individual points available per attribute.

	Potential Points	Points
A. Special Status Species are in the area and the contract will enhance habitat for at least one of the following species: loach minnow, spikedace, southwester willow flycatcher, Chiricahua leopard frog.	50	
B. Treatment of this land could have a beneficial impact on a 303d listed stream.	20	
C. Treatment of this land could enhance the benefits of an active/proposed 319 project.	30	
D. This land is in a NMED designated Category 1 watershed.	20	
E. The proposed contracted area will be treated to eradicate and/or prevent infestation of Class A and/or Class B noxious weeds as designated by NMDA.	40	
F. Structural improvements provided for in the contract involve the reconstruction of non-functional existing structures to reduce the negative impact on special status species.	50	
G. Existing partnerships are in place to help facilitate the completion of practices provided for in the contract.	50	
4. BLM Other Considerations.	Total:	

5. SUMMARY OF EVALUATION

Total Points **Section 1 (After-Benchmark):** _____ **Section 2:** _____ **Section 3 or 4:** _____

Total for Worksheet: _____

BLM or F.S. Representative _____ **Date** _____

NRCS Representative _____ **Date** _____

TIE BREAKING RULES

In the event of a tie in points, with insufficient funding to fund all of the tie applications, the following priorities will be used for funding:

1. Application with the most points in section 3 or 4, as applicable (Ignore maximum points limitation).
2. Application with the most points in section 1 (Ignore maximum points limitation)
3. Application with the most points in section 2 (Ignore maximum points limitation)

If insufficient funds are available to fund the entire application of the top priority tie application, the next application will be selected for funding.